

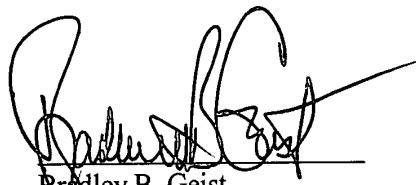
PATENT

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-8 and 17 are currently pending. Claims 1, 3-8 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 (2<sup>nd</sup> ¶) for the reasons set forth in the last paragraph on page 2 of the Official Action, and not herein repeated. By the present amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 17 as well as claims 3-8, to correct the apparently inconsit and unclear recitation that the semiconductor layer is both "oxidizable" and "oxidized". Further, the alternating layers are now recited as "a first plurality" and "a second plurality" for great clarity. Other grammatical changes to claims 1 and 17 and claims 3-8 has also been made. None of the amendments are believed to have introduced any new matter.

In the circumstances, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending claims, which are believed to be in condition for allowance, or in better condition for an appeal.

Respectfully submitted,



Bradley B. Geist  
PTO Reg. No. 27,551

Attorney for the Applicants  
(212) 408-2562